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PROGRAM TITLE UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #558

ADVERTISER SUSTAINING

AGENCY

WRITER

DAY & DATE THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11, 1943

TIME 11:30 - 12:00 Noon CWT.

BLUE LOCAL

PRODUCTION NOTES

CHARACTERS

CAST

BESS -----HAZEL DOPHIEDE

JERRY ---- FRANK DANE

JIM ----- HARVEY HAYS

JOHNNY-----DICK TURNER

SOUND

REMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

BLUE NETWORK COMPANY

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THE TV COMPANY is respectfully requesting the program. All characters made in dramatic and/or music content are considered having.

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

MUSIC: Theme

ANNOUNCER: Secretary of Agriculture Wickard recently made this observation...."War," said Mr. Wickard, and I'm quoting ----"War is a good deal like soil erosion on a gigantic scale. The forces that cause war, like those that cause erosion, are always there, and the only way to keep them from getting a start and tearing things to pieces is by intelligent planning and everlasting work!...(end of quotation)....In a strong sense, this is also the philosophy of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers. Their job is one of continual planning....continual work...for public good. The Forest Rangers are working with all their strength for the future that should bring everlasting peace. And they hope with all their heart, that their efforts will truly add to that peace....Now to the Pine Cone Ranger Station where we find Ranger Jim Robbins' wife, Bess, clearing up the dishes while young Assistant Ranger Jerry Quick grabs a late bite of breakfast in the kitchen. Here they are....

FADE IN SOUNDS OF DISHWASHING, OCCASIONAL CLATTER OF SILVERWARE

JERRY: (KEEP SLIGHTLY OFF) I don't understand it.

Bess; You don't understand what, Jerry?

JERRY: Well, Jim said he and I were going to spend the day checking hunters on the Bull Creek area. Instead of that, he gets up real early and heads out of here all by himself. I don't get it.

BESS: Is your coffee hot enough, Jerry?

JERRY: (MOUTHFUL) Yes, thanks. I could eat a couple more of these hot cakes though, Mrs. Robbins...But about Jim. Where'd he go, anyway?

BESS: (SOLEMN) Don't you know what day this is, Jerry?

JERRY: Huh? Sure. It's Thursday, November 11th...Hey, November 11th

BESS: That's right. This is Armistice Day.

JERRY: Armistice Day, 1943. Gosh, I guess Jim didn't realize that when we first planned to work together today.

BESS: HE realized it last night, after you'd gone to bed, Jerry.

JERRY: Yeah, I know Jim likes to get off in the forest by himself on a day like this...I guess that's because of David, isn't it Mrs. Robbins?

BESS: (VERY QUIETLY) Yes Jerry. Our boy David...he helped make the first Armistice Day possible, but he didn't live to see it himself.

JERRY: I'm sorry Mrs. Robbins...I shoulda had more sense than to....

BESS: It's all right, Jerry...Jim said to tell you to just go ahead by yourself. He said you could handle it alone for today.

JERRY: Sure. Of course....Jim rates a day off by himself once a year anyway.

BESS: He won't be by himself, Jerry. Not today.....

JERRY: Huh?

BESS: Remember Johnny Roberts, Jerry?

JERRY: Johnny? Oh yea, that kid from Beaver Creek. Jim's taking Johnny out into the woods with him today?

1 BESS: Not exactly, Jerry. Jim's gone over to Beaver Creek. He
2 plans to spend the day there in Beaver Creek with little
3 Johnny.

4 JERRY: Going to spend the whole day in that old God-foresaken out-over
5 area? Gosh, if he feels low, all that barren out-over'll
6 make it worse....What's he and Johnny gonna do all day?

7 BESS: You have forgotten, Jerry....Jim's going to help Johnny
8 plant trees.

9 JERRY: Say! Of course! Jim promised little Johnny he'd do just
10 that...help him set out some trees now as a starter for
11 the big tree planting program we hope to have in Beaver
12 Creek after the war.

13 BESS: Yes, Jerry. Jim said last night that he thought it'd be
14 a good idea to do that with Johnny today because...well,
15 Jim said Armistice Day this year ought to be one of resolve
16 and not a day of recollection alone.

17 JERRY: A day of resolve...And action, and a look ahead' huh? I
18 guess setting out those trees in Beaver Creek oughta
19 cover it, all right. And...wait a minute...this youngster
20 Johnny. His Dad's in the Army and overseas to boot, isn't
21 he? Say, you don't think that's another reason for Jim
22 wanting to be with the kid, do you?

23 BESS: It could be Jerry. But something else occurred to me...

24 JERRY: What's that Mrs. Robbins?

25 BESS: Well, I think maybe that for today at least, a little boy
named Johnny may help to fill the place of a little boy
named David in (FADE) a father's aching heart.....

PAUSE:

JOHNNY: (FADING IN) That's the second time you've don that, Mr. Robbins. The second time you've called me David.

JIM: I...I didn't realize it, Johnny.

JOHNNY: Ah, that's all right, sir. I don't mind

JIM: I'm glad, Johnny....Well, son, we 've got this last tree to plant. The sun will be going down in a few minutes.

JOHNNY: Gee, just one more. Can I plant it, all by myself?

JIM: Sure, Go to it. Here's the shovel.

JOHNNY: This is a good place, isn't it? Near this big old stump?

JIM: DON't set it too close, Johnny. We want to give the roots a chance, you know.

JOHNNY: How about here, Mister Robbins?

JIM: That's good. It'll be in line with the other trees in this row.....All right, dig the hole.

JOHNNY: Right...(SOUND OF DIGGING) Gee, this has been a swell day, Mister Robbins.

JIM: So it has, son, so it has.

DIGGING OUT

JOHNNY: That ought to be deep enough. Now, for Mister tree. In you go, Mister tree....

JIM: Not too deep, Johnny.

JOHNNY: I know. We gotta keep the root collar right even with the top of the ground. (SCRAPING) A little dirt under the roots, and, there, now I can fill it in, can't I?

JIM: That's fine, son. You've got those roots all spread out dandy. Fill 'er in.

SOUND OF SCRAPING

JOHNNY: There, that does it. Now, I'll pack it down good....There! Now, a little tug at the tree....See, Mister Robbins, it's good and solid, isn't it?

JIM: Couldn't be better, son.

JOHNNY: Gee, the last tree.

JIM: (MUSING) That's just the way he said it...David...so many years ago. "Gee, the last tree, Dad!"

(SLIGHT PAUSE)

JOHNNY: Mister Robbins

JIM: Huh? Oh..Yes, Johnny?

JOHNNY: Who was David, Mister Robbins? Some little boy like me, that you knew once?

JIM: Yes, Johnny. A little boy a lot like you...Wanta sit here on this stump with me a minute, Johnny? The sun's not quite down yet...And if you like, I'll tell you a little about David.

JOHNNY: Oh, I'd like that, sir. I'll sit here.

JIM: Good....Comfortable?

JOHNNY: Yes sir. Now about David, Mister Robbins.

JIM: David was my little boy, Johnny...My son.

JOHNNY: I didn't know that, Mister Robbins. He doesn't live with you at the Ranger Station now, does he?

JIM: No.

JOHNNY: But he did when he was little, didn't he?

JIM: Yes.

JOHNNY: Gee, he musta had a lot of fun. Going out in the woods with you and planting trees and...Did he help you plant trees, Mister Robbins?

JIM: Yes, Johnny. We planted a lot of trees together. Often, just the two of us, like you and me today.

JOHNNY: Oh. Now I know why you called me David every once in a while. You forgot, and really thought I was David, didn't you?

JIM: Maybe it was that I remembered, once again, that David and I did these things together.

JOHNNY: Where's David now, Mister Robbins?

JIM: That's what I want to tell you, Johnny. And maybe, in telling you, you'll be able to understand a little better about the war and the importance of planting trees in Beaver Creek and all.....I guess that doesn't make sense right now, but maybe it will in a minute, son.

JOHNNY: Uh Huh.

JIM: David was a soldier in the first world war. It was before you were born, Johnny. We all hoped back then that it would be the last war we'd have. But it didn't work out that way, son.

JOHNNY: I know Because there's a war now, isn't there? And my Daddy's a soldier now.

1 The job wasn't completely done then, as we'd hoped,
2 Johnny. The sore spots weren't all cleaned up, didn't
3 heal in the right way. There were too many places....
4 like Beaver Creek, Johnny.....too many places left
5 without care and attention and the sickness of the
6 land stayed with the people and the pain of both the
7 land and the people helped to create another war, this
8 war.

9 Johnny: I don't understand, Mr. Robbins. You said Beaver Creek
10 was like those other places?

11 JIM: Yes, in a way. All over the world, Johnny, where there
12 are places like Beaver Creek that have been foolishly
13 abused, where resources both physical or spiritual have
14 been misused or neglected, there you'll find the starting
15 place for dissatisfaction, unhappiness, a poor brand of
16 living. Those are the places that have got to be cleaned
17 up. I reckon this is kinda over you head, huh, son?

18 JOHNNY: Well, some of it, Mister Robbins. I know something though.

19 JIM: YES?

20 JOHNNY: It'd be lots more fun to have a lotta trees growing here
21 around Beaver Creek again, instead of all these old rotten
22 stumps. And it'd sure make it easier for Mom to keep
23 the house clean and for me to get stove wood and.... Oh,
24 a lot of things like that. Is that what you mean, Mister Robbins?

1 JIM: Yes, Johnny. It's as simple as that. I reckon Beaver
2 Creek is only a wee small place compared to other sick
3 places in the world; but today, son, you and I have
4 made a start in healing up the soreness and devastation
5 that's in this Beaver Creek land. We've made a start,
6 planting a few trees, to restore a spot of land and
7 a way of life that my boy David gave his life fighting
8 for, years ago....

9 JOHNNY: And that my Daddy is fighting for now?

10 JIM: Yes, Johnny....

11 JOHNNY: I was thinking about Daddy. Gee, he'll be proud then
12 that we planted these trees, won't he? And maybe
13 he'll help me plant some more trees when the war is
14 over and he comes back home....I pray for Daddy every
15 night, Mister Robbins.

16 JIM: Good boy, Johnny...If my plans and your prayers work
17 out, son, your Daddy and you will sure enough be
18 planting trees together here in Beaver Creek, after
19 the war.

20 JOHNNY: Gee, you mean Daddy could have a regular job planting
21 trees right here at home?

22 JIM: We hope that's the way it will be, Johnny. That's
23 what we're working for any way.

24 JOHNNY: Gosh, Mom will be proud to know that, Mister Robbins..
25And, Mister Robbins?

1 JIM: Yes, son?
2 JOHNNY: I'm awful sorry about David....
3 JIM: Bless your heart, youngster.....But don't be....I feel
4 pretty good about it all now. Working with you today,
5 and talking to you, Johnny, has helped more than
6 you'll ever know. Well, the day is about done....
7 JOHNNY: Day is done....Say, that's the name of a poem our
8 school teacher taught us last week, Mister Robbins....
9 It's called Taps.
10 JIM: Taps. Yes, of course..will you....will you recite
11 it for me, Johnny?
12 JOHNNY: Sure...I'll stand up here, on this old stump...
13 JIM: That 's right....And I'll look back over those rows of
14 little trees we planted today, Johnny. Go ahead, son.
15 JOHNNY: (RECITING) Day is done; gone the sun...from the lakes,
16 from the hills, from the sky...All is well, safely
17 rest....God is nigh....
18 JIM: (SLOWLY) All is well...safely rest....God is nigh....
19 MUSICAL FINALE
20 ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week
21 during the National Farm and Home Hour as a network
22 presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service,
23 United States Department of Agriculture.....
24
25

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19 MUSICAL FINALE

18 JIM: (SLOWLY) All is well...safely rest...God is high...
17 rest...God is high...
16 from the hills, from the sky...All is well, safely
15 (SINGING) Day is done; gone the sun...from the lakes,
14 little trees we planted today, Johnny. Go ahead, son.
13 That's right...And I'll look back over those rows of
12 Johnny: Sure...I'll stand up here, on this old stump...
11 it for me, Johnny?

10 JIM: Tags. Yes, of course...will you...will you realize
9 It's called Tags.
8 school teacher taught us last week, Mister Hopkins...
7 Johnny: Day is done...Say, that's the name of a poem our
6 you'll ever know? Well, the day is about done...
5 and talking to you, Johnny, has helped more than
4 pretty good about it all now. Working with you today,
3 Bless your heart, youngster...But don't be...I feel
2 I'm awfully sorry about David....
1 Yes, son? JIM: